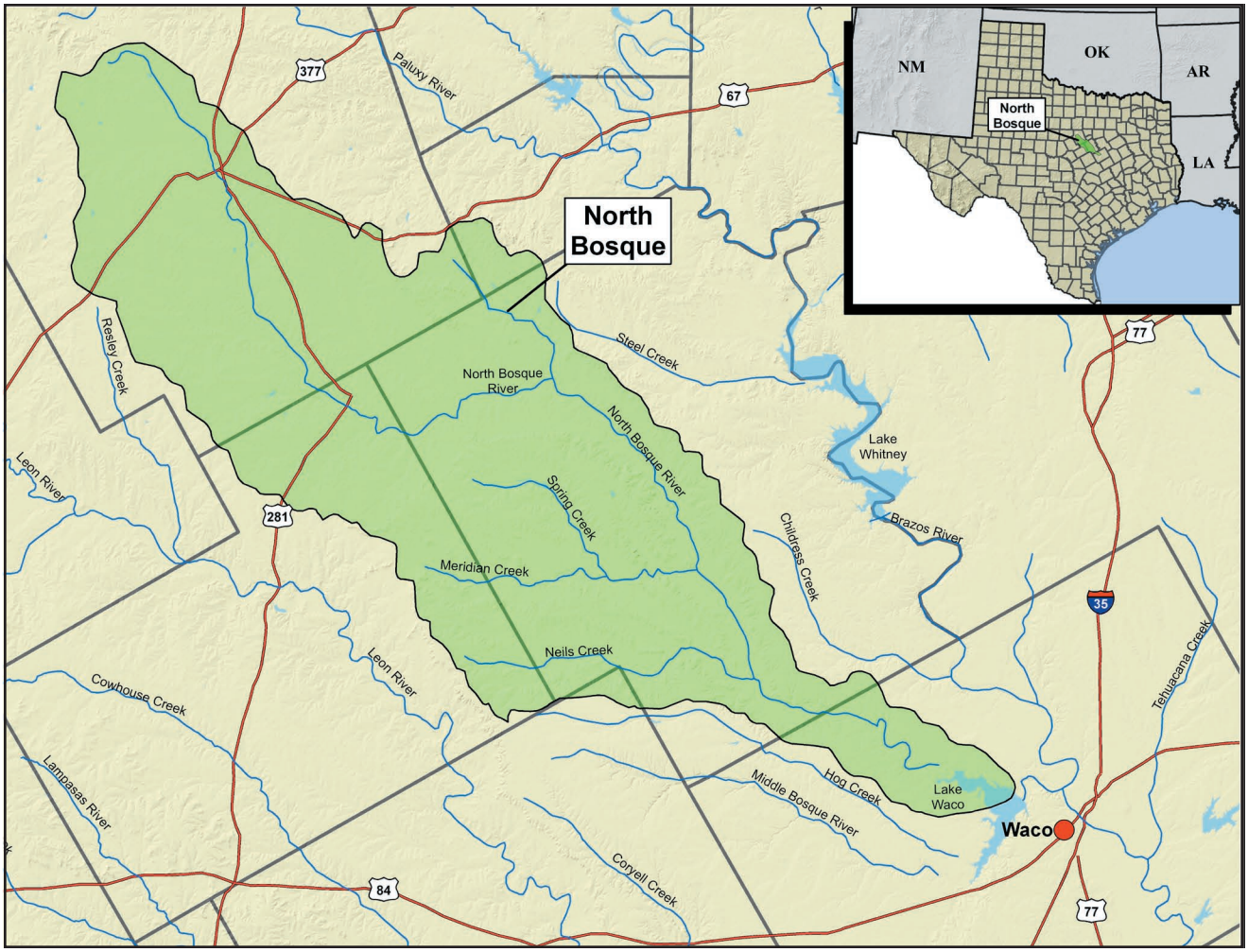
United States Department of Agriculture

Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP)

Watershed Fact Sheet

North Bosque River Watershed, Texas: 2004-2006

An NRCS* Special Emphasis Watershed, one of 24 CEAP watershed projects.



CEAP Assessment

Evaluate the ability of conservation practices to reduce phosphorus flow to Lake Waco.

Watershed Description

- Drains into Lake Waco, which provides 75% of the drinking water for the city of Waco.
- 800,000 acres
- 41% pasture, 28% range, 20% forest, and 7% cropland
- Study area has the largest concentration of dairy animals in Texas.
- A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has been established for phosphorus.

Issues: Quality of water entering Lake Waco, air quality, and soil quality.

**Natural Resources Conservation Service*

Liquid waste application by center pivot.

Composted dairy manure hauled from watershed for application to grassland.

Approach

Water Sampling: phosphorus

Watershed Model: APEX (Agricultural Policy/ Environmental eXtender)

Assess Practices: Compile data and model conservation practices as close to actual field scale as possible.

Communicating Results

Three annual progress reports planned. Also, reports on changes in phosphorus loading into Lake Waco; effects of conservation practices; and effectiveness of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Collaborators

- USDA Farm Service Agency
- U.S. Geological Survey
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Local Conservation Districts
- Dairy farmers
- City of Waco
- Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
- Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
- Texas Cooperative Extension
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Water Resource Institute
- Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research
- Texas Department of Agriculture

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http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/nri/ceap/